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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of :  
Nobuyuki BABA et al. : Attn: APPLICATION BRANCH  
Serial No. NEW : Docket No. 2001\_1015A  
Filed August 2, 2001 :  
HYBRID PIPETTE

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED  
TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE  
FEE FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT  
ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975.

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents,  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Prior to initial examination of the above-identified new patent application,  
kindly amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Kindly amend claims 4-7, 11 and 14-18 as follows:

4.(Amended) A hybrid pipette according to claim 1, further comprising:

a transmission gear mechanism provided between said electric motor  
and said engagement member.

5.(Amended) A hybrid pipette according to claim 1, wherein said electric  
motor is a direct-current motor, said direct-current motor being provided with a brake  
mechanism.